

as the combined lengths of the first three funicular segments, the frontal carinæ fused to form a single vertical plate as in the worker and female, the thorax with Mayrian furrows, the anterior wing lacking a disocidal cell but having at least one closed cubital cell, the petiole and gaster almost as those of the other castes.

Although *Discothyrea* is an ancient and relict genus, we are not aware of any fossil forms. These highly specialized ants are well adapted to their cryptobiotic life. Little is known concerning their feeding habits, but it is almost a certainty that they are carnivorous, probably on some of the small organisms near the surface of the soil, humus, or well rotted cavities of logs and stumps. Their unusually small colonies must not comprise more than a dozen or so adult individuals and should be found in the habitats mentioned above. It is quite likely that females establish colonies alone without the assistance of workers.

*Discothyrea testacea* Roger, 1863, Berlin. Ent. Ztschr. 7:177, worker, female (without locality). — Roger, 1863, Verzeichniss der Formiciden, Gattungen und Arten, p. 21 (designated "Nord Amerika" as type locality). — Mayr, 1886, Zool. — Bot. Gesell. Wien 36: 438. — Emery, 1895, Zool. Jahrb. Abt. f. System. 8: 226. — W. M. Wheeler, 1911, Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci. 21: 162. — Emery, 1911, in Wytzman's Genera Insectorum, fascicule 118, p. 52. — Weber, 1939, Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. 32: 99, 101-102, worker, female (in key). — Weber, 1940, Psyche 47: 79. — Donisthorpe, 1943, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 10: 640. — Borgmeier, 1949, Rev. Brasil Biol. 9: 205, worker, female (in key). — M. R. Smith, 1951, in U. S. Dept. Agr. Monogr., No. 2, p. 785.

WORKER. Length 1.55 mm.

Head ovoid, approximately one and one-third times as long as broad (maximum length from the extreme anterior border of the clypeus to the posterior border of the head, 0.46 mm., maximum breadth, eye to eye, 0.34 mm.), with weakly convex sides, rounded posterior corners and almost imperceptibly emarginate posterior border. Compound eye extremely minute, scarcely perceptible, placed on side of head nearer to the base of the mandible than to the posterior border of the head, composed of only a few ommatidia. Antenna 9-segmented, placed near the extreme anterior border of the head; scape short (excluding the pedicel, 0.25 mm. in length), strongly curved and also strongly thickened (clavate) toward the apex; funiculus short and stout, the first segment as long as, or longer than broad, the second through the seventh segments successively widening, each of these being clearly broader than